for long distance telecommunications, radio and TV programme distribution and net-working and meteorology. Of these the only area where the satellite itself generates data is in meteorological applications, though a very High Resolution Rediometer (VHRR) which produces cloud imagery data. The VHRR data is received and processed by the India Meteorological Department at a specially set up facility viz. the Meteorological Data Utilisation Centre in New Delhi.

(b) The processed VHRR data has improved the quality of weather forecasts and increased their confidence level. Quicker availability of data enables weather forecasts, storm warnings and flood forecasts to be issued well in advance. Timely and accurate weather information has assisted agricultural operations and helped in reducing damage to life and property due to floods and cyclonic storms.

Appointment of I.A.S. officers against technical posts

*54. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is fact that IAS officers have been appointed for the technical posts in Doordarshan and in Tourism Department;

(b) whether Government have given special training to those IAS officers for the technical posts; and

(c) whether Government have any proposal to revise the policy of appointing the technical persons for the technical posts in lieu of the existing conditions ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c) No technical posts in Doordarshan or the Department of Tourism which require technical qualifications have been filled by IAS officers. All technical posts under the Government are filled by persons possessing the requisite technical qualfications, strictly in terms of the recruitment rules prescribed for each post. The question of revising the policy in this regard does not therefore, arise.

I.A.S. officers on deputation to Central Government

*55. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) what is the number of IAS officers on deputation to Central Government, State-wise;

(b) what is the tenure of service for Secretaries & Additional Secretaries to the Government of India;

(c) what are the names of IAS Officers who are continuing in Government of India beyond their normal tenure State-wise;

(d) whether Government propose to revert those officers who have completed their tenure; and

(e) what is the procedure of selection of officers for appointment to the Government of India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Information relating to the State-wise number of IAS Officers on